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MICHIGAN MEDICAL MARIJUANA NEWS & INFO

DECEMBER 2011 ISSUE 11

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NOTES



Happy Holidays Readers,

As the holidays approach, so too are potential changes in marijuana laws here in Michigan. Last year we had hoped to legalize dispensaries by passing the *Provisioning Center Act*, a bill sponsored by Rep Mike Calton. This year the bills look horrible in comparison. The *MMM Report* doesn't support the bills as written because the caregivers that supply dispensaries will be cut out.

Christmas trees of the smokable kind have been pouring in. This month we feature Got Meds, Lansing premier cannabis lounge. Check out the story and the store.

John Sinclair has a new book out and it makes a perfect holiday gift. Order it online today!

Readers, I want to thank you for all the support. Other Cannabis magazines come and go here in Michigan. In February we will be celebrating our 5 Year Anniversary of the *MMM Report* first issue. As always we cut through the bullshit, and as always, we give you the straight dope!

- Ben Horner



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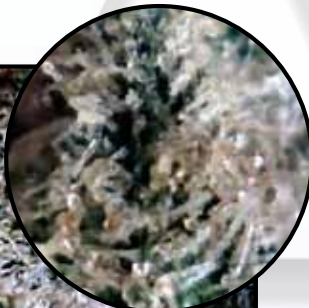
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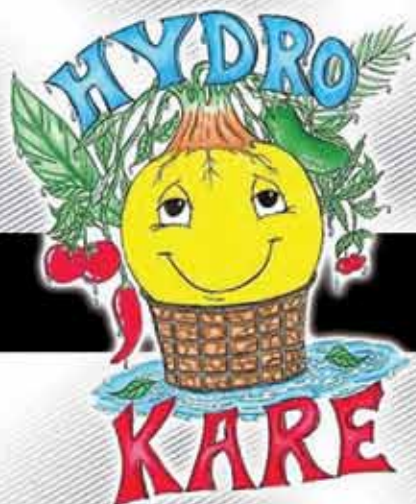
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Michigan News

by Rachel Bunting

Police Reposition Opinion on Marijuana

LANSING: While most law enforcement officials in Michigan refuse to completely support any proposal to legalize marijuana in the state, they are not going to stand in the way either. According to mLive, Howell Police Chief said, "While law enforcement cannot support any legislation that by definition is illegal under federal law due to the classification of marijuana, what we can do is find a position not to oppose having a tough and tight regulatory framework." This means that while police cannot support any legalization proposal, they will not fight against a proposal they see as detailed and well crafted.



While medical marijuana has been legal in Michigan since 2008, the framework for the law was ambiguous when it came to how marijuana may be ingested and the legality of dispensaries. Along with the many petitions going around the state proposing the legalization of marijuana, there is also a medical bill drawn up by Mike Callton which would not only tax and legalize dispensaries but would use a seed to sale tracking system and create guidelines for edibles as well as other non-smokable forms of marijuana.

Many officers testified before the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is currently considering House-approved legislation that would allow the state to license and regulate medical dispensaries. The enforcement officers proposed some changes to the medical marijuana bills themselves. One of those changes would be to throw out the caregiver system if dispensaries start becoming licensed. They believe if the



dispensaries are licensed there would be no need for patients to have their own caregiver because they will be able to buy their medication at the store. Some also feel that the overages caregivers will undoubtedly have, will make its way to the black market especially since the Michigan State Police do not support caregivers selling to dispensaries. Law enforcement would also like to add language to the bill that would prevent any form of home delivery or internet sales by dispensaries as well as putting strict regulations on those transporting the medication to ensure it is delivered to the stores in a safe and secure way.

And while the current proposal would allow state police to inspect the facilities, local and county police believe they should have that authority too. It was also suggested that if the caregiver system is not eliminated, caregivers should be subjected to similar inspections and licensing rules. The input from law enforcement officials will be taken by the Senate Judiciary Committee as recommendations and will continue to hear testimony throughout December before making any changes or decisions about the bills.

Raids in Kent County

PLAINFIELD TOWNSHIP: The Kent Area Narcotics Enforcement Team (KANET) and Metropolitan Enforcement conducted raids on three marijuana dispensaries this month. KANET stated the teams began investigating the dispensaries earlier in the month after receiving reports that illegal marijuana sales were being conducted. Illegal marijuana sales from a medical marijuana dispensary means that the shop was not selling the medicine in the proper way outlined in the MMMA. Investigators say they ran multiple undercover visits and found all three dispensaries were violating the medical marijuana law. Police raided the stores with search warrants, questioned workers before releasing them, and seized marijuana and drug-related items. The police will now have to present their findings to the Kent County prosecutors who will determine what, if any, charges will be filed.





Detroit City Council Approves Dispensary Licensing

DETROIT: The Detroit City Council has approved an ordinance that will help slow down and prevent the over-saturation of dispensaries in the city, though the final approval may not come until January.

The ordinances that have been approved not only will require dispensaries to be licensed through the city but will also dictate where they may not be set-up. Many in the area see this approval as a God-send because with no regulations more than 150 medical shops have opened across the city. However with the new regulations all dispensaries that are unlicensed will be shut-down, no new stores can open within 1,000ft of a school, church, or liquor store, and drive-through windows as well as 24-hr services are prohibited.

All facilities and shop owners will be subject to inspections and background checks. Marijuana supporters feel that the over-board restrictions will leave few areas for medical shops to set up and will end up limiting the supply of medicine for people with legitimate needs. The council must still hold a public hearing on the matter which may not take place until after the New Year.



Cars Aren't for Smoking Pot, Medical or Otherwise

MOUNT PLEASANT: A man from Mount Pleasant has been charged with a misdemeanor stemming from an arrest last year where he was found smoking marijuana in his car at Soaring Eagle Casino. While judges in Isabella County ruled the man's car was not a public place and dismissed his case, the Michigan appeals court reversed that ruling after the prosecutor appealed the decision. The appeals court said that a car is private property but parking lots are generally open to the public and the state's medical marijuana law bans use "in any public place." This decision gives state prosecutors the go-ahead to take up charges against medical marijuana patients who are using their medication in their own vehicle in a public parking lot.



Questionable Police Purchases

LANSING: According to *High Times*, Michigan Law Enforcement agencies may be dipping into the Michigan Medical Marijuana Fund to make problematic purchases. The fund, which is supported by patients and caregivers through money they pay to the state for licensing, was intended to be used by law enforcement "for the operation and oversight of the Michigan medical marijuana program...operation and oversight grants are for education, communication, and enforcement of the MMMA."

Around \$3 million was available to local sheriffs but only \$167,000 was distributed to the four counties that applied for grants. Macomb County was one of those that applied for the grant and received \$63,000. *High Times* states that "officers did not have the opportunity to attend training" but they did purchase a 2015 Dodge Durango and trailer to allow them to investigate participants in the marijuana program more easily. Of the \$19,000 granted to Sanilac County, \$5,400 was spent on tasers and \$4,800 spent on iPads, the rest was spent on an ATV trailer and clothing.

Other areas, such as Lapeer County, used the money granted to pay officers' wages. St. Clair County also used most of the money granted (81 percent of it) to pay their officers but they did send the St. Clair County Drug Task Force to a 3-day training seminar in Lansing.

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National News

by Rachel Bunting



Alaska to Allow Smoking at Pot Shops

JUNEAU: While marijuana use was made legal, for people 21 and older, in Alaska in November of last year, it is still illegal to buy as no businesses have been licensed to dispense it. According to the Associated Press, the board is already ironing out the kinks in its laws, before accepting business applications in February, by changing the definition of "in public". The initiative passed last year did ban public consumption but did not define the term "public". In a 3-2 vote by the Marijuana Control Board "in public" was changed to allow for pot consumption in some of the shops that will be licensed to sell it. Chairman of the board Bruce Schulte, who proposed the amendment, believes there will be a demand for facilities that are permitted to have on-site consumption. Earlier this year regulators defined "in public" as a place where the public or a substantial group of people have access, but many felt this definition was too restrictive as it could ban consumption at weddings or office parties. The director of the board anticipates more changes in the future detailing types of marijuana that will be allowed to be consumed in the stores.



Fake Marijuana Comes With Real Dangers

SAN DIEGO:

Spice, aka synthetic marijuana, is essentially plant material sprayed with a mixture of chemicals which

can induce a synthetic euphoric high when smoked. It is a dangerous substance as the chemicals sprayed on the material are constantly being changed to avoid new laws and users have no idea what they are consuming. However, because it is likened to actual marijuana many young people believe it is as safe as the real thing. Many unfortunate people are learning that isn't the case with over 16 people in San Diego becoming ill from the drug on Saturday alone.

Of those 16 people, 10 had to be taken to the hospital with 3 in critical condition. Their symptoms ranged from nausea and mood swings, to rapid heartbeat and difficulty breathing. While none of these cases appear to be life threatening, many still wonder why a plant that could produce euphoric feelings with none of the hospitalizing side-effects as its synthetic counterpart is still not legalized for public consumption.



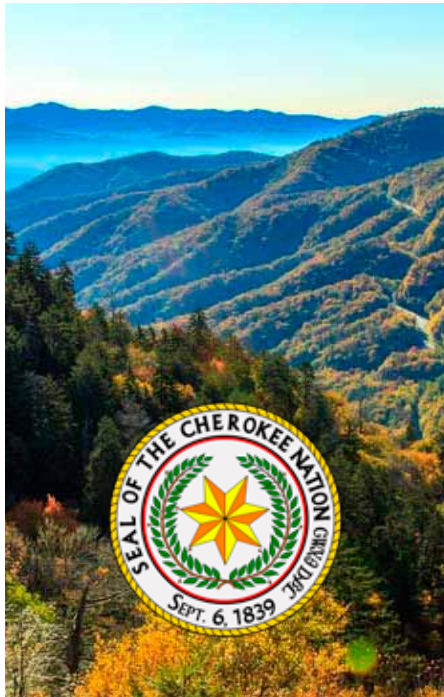
Newport Beach Doesn't Waste Any Time

NEWPORT BEACH:

California Governor Jerry Brown signed the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act in October. The Act will establish

a statewide licensing system as well as a consistent set of industry criteria regulated by the state. It allows cities to create their own rules regarding the system but warns "unless cities take immediate action to enact rules or bans for medical marijuana in their jurisdictions, the state will become the sole authority for licensing and regulation."

Newport Beach is making sure the state won't take over in its area by passing an ordinance banning marijuana dispensaries and cultivation centers as well as any delivery of medical cannabis. Currently marijuana is only legalized in California for medical reasons but that, as in many other states, could be changing next fall. Eighteen marijuana legalization proposals have been submitted to the attorney general's office for approval where nine of them have been given the okay to begin collecting signatures.



North Carolina's Cherokee Might Legalize

CHEROKEE: Leaders on the Cherokee Indian Reservation passed a motion which will allow studies to be conducted to indicate how marijuana could be used on the reservation, if at all. They will look into if it could be used for medical purposes with a prescription or if it should be for sale in dispensaries. Since Cherokee is technically an independent state, and as of last year reservations were given the same options to legalize marijuana as states are given, it does not follow the laws of North Carolina.

A member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, Joey Owle, told News Channel 9, "We're talking about a plant...it has a variety of uses and we shouldn't be neglecting that. We as Cherokee people always used plants for medicine, so that's where we're playing into, is our culture."

Derrick Palmer, Sheriff of Cherokee County, acknowledges that his office has no jurisdiction on tribal property but says, marijuana is still illegal in North Carolina "and we're going to try to enforce that on highways and other places off of tribal property, [if it is legalized on the reservation] logistically it's just going to be a nightmare for us." Palmer also believes that marijuana won't necessarily lead to other drugs but it does introduce kids to drugs in general. Many agree with the sheriff, but others feel it could give the reservation a much needed economic boost. A rough poll of tribal members showed that 73% support the idea of legalizing marijuana within the community. Owle says the study should be finished with a proposal ready for the council in March.



Anchorage Woman Helping Eradicate Synthetic Spice Epidemic

ANCHORAGE: An Alaska woman is on a mission to help her community rid itself of synthetic marijuana, or spice. Spice use in Anchorage has skyrocketed and has been the cause of over 30 hospitalizations. Nicole Crites is working to fight the drug by offering users a healthier alternative – marijuana. She began her program in late October and has already destroyed a quarter pound of synthetic pot.

Her program involves users to call her, at which point she goes to those in need with toilet bowl cleaner and trash bags, she has them immerse their spice in the toilet bowl cleaner and throw it away. After they have destroyed their own spice, Crites thanks them by giving them double the weight destroyed in marijuana, capping at an ounce.

Crites told The Northern Light (TNL), "Your community is what you build of it and nobody wants this in their community and nobody wants their kids around it. If you have the option of putting yourself or your child in a room full of 10 people that are stoners that smoke weed, or 10 people that just smoked Spice. Which room would you pick? I think there are really obvious dangers." She believes getting helping people be informed about spice and its dangers is the most important thing. According to TNL, "at this point, Crites has not received a second call from anyone she's helped."



Pesticide Problem

OREGON: New rules in Oregon will require marijuana sold in dispensaries or pot shops to be tested for almost 60 pesticides. These new rules, however, will not go into effect until spring of next year and currently the law only requires testing labs to check for four types of chemicals. Mowgli Holmes, a scientist who owns the marijuana genetic research company Phyllos Bioscience, believes current pesticide regulations need to be tightened until the new rules take effect. He feels testing should be required to look for ten to twelve of the most commonly used pesticides and is being encouraged to submit his changes to the state for review.

Concerns over pesticide-laced marijuana have been growing as more products have been hitting the shelves without proper testing or with inaccurate lab results. Many feel that the tighter restrictions on the testing facilities will mean nothing if the labs are not being checked by the state as many producers with tainted products will take their goods to different labs until they get the results they want; thus polluting the shelves with their chemically infused bud. Until something is done, patients as well as recreational consumers are playing Russian roulette with whether or not their pot is pure.



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World News

by Rachel Bunting



CannTrust™

Canadian Company Helps Brew the Morning Pot

VAUGHAN: CannTrust, a medical marijuana producer in Ontario, has created CANNCUP, a single-serve marijuana pod for coffee machines such as Keurig. Similar to the coffee pods already available, the CANNCUP will contain coffee, tea, or hot chocolate but will also contain dried cannabis. The pods will run between \$3 and \$4 a cup but the marijuana will not affect the taste of the drink.

CannaTrust is awaiting approval from Health Canada for the license to begin selling the pods to medical patients. A statement released from Health Canada stated the agency is "working to determine if these pods would be permissible." This is because up until June patients were only allowed to smoke the dried plant, but in June the Supreme Court ruled that patients were not restricted to smoking to consume the drug. While this ruling permitted cannabis companies to produce oils and fresh buds, it did not specify whether pot-infused edibles would be acceptable. The CEO of CannaTrust is optimistic that the new Liberal government will expand the rules and make access to medication easier.



Public Smoking Allowed in Ontario

CANADA: Under new regulations in Ontario, medical marijuana patients will now be allowed to medicate with either a joint or an e-cigarette in public places. These public places include areas where cigarette smoking is already prohibited such as movie theaters, restaurants, or even playgrounds. Ontario's associate health minister did state that employers and business proprietors have the right to ban marijuana smoking or vaping in their establishments.

If a patron refuses to leave after they are told smoking is prohibited in the business, they will be considered to be breaking the law. Business owners will also have the right to ask a patient for verification that they are permitted to be using the drug. While many feel that not much will change as patients will not be running to the streets to medicate, others, including the Canadian Cancer Society, warn that second-hand smoke is a real danger and worry about children being exposed. The Canadians for Fair Access to Medical Marijuana said the new guidelines are an "important milestone in the recognition of the legitimacy of the use of cannabis as a medicine."



Window Jumper

DUBLIN, IRELAND: The apartment manager of a building in Dublin alerted authorities of a possible grow operation in one of the premises. Officers went to the apartment, were able to smell the plants, and returned later that evening with a warrant. After breaking down the door police found 126 plants at various stages of growth. An officer noticed an open window and looking out, found their suspect 2 floors down on the pavement with no shoes and a back injury from the jump. The suspect, Nianjie He, was cooperative with the investigation and claimed he was under threat of physical harm if he did not tend to the plants. While the judge in the case acknowledged He's cooperation with the police, and

accepted He had been forced into the work of caring for the drug, he also noted the He had committed similar offenses in the past and sentenced him to three and a half years in prison.



Nepal Police Vow to Destroy Cannabis

UDAIPUR DISTRICT: The Armed Police Force and Nepal Police have started a campaign to end marijuana cultivation in the western areas of the Udaipur District. They started the operation on November 20th and destroyed more than 100 bigaha, roughly 40 acres, of commercial marijuana within three days, according to District Police Chief Surendra Gurung.

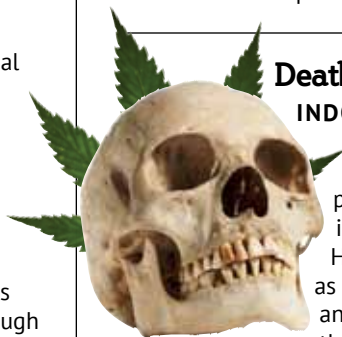
More than a dozen Village Development Communities (VDCs) in the district have been cultivated by locals. Though the crops continue to be destroyed, farmers will not stop growing because, according to one farmer, it is nearly a Rs 50 crore, or \$12 million dollar industry in the country.



Don't Sell Molta in Malta

ITALY: Malta, a small island country off the coast of Italy, called on the larger country to extradite a 49 year-old

restaurant owner who was wanted for dealing over one kilogram, or 2 pounds, of marijuana. He ran a restaurant in Malta, where he supposedly sold the weed, before moving to Italy to open another shop. Lawyers for the man claimed the legal differences between the countries would be unfair to his client. The courts agreed and he will now face the charges against him in Italy. If he were to be extradited to Malta he could face life in prison for the accusations.



Death for Dealers

INDONESIA: In early November, a 42 year-old man, only named as P.M., was arrested after being found in possession of 12.35 pounds of marijuana in Indonesia's capitol city of Jakarta.

He is being charged with possession as well as trafficking. Police received an anonymous tip from residents about the possible dealer. Unfortunately, since

Indonesia operates under the 2009 Anti-Narcotics Law and has one of the strictest anti-drug policies in Southeast Asia, it is possible P. M. can be sentenced to death for his charges.



Mexico Will Not Violate Human Rights Over Prohibition

MEXICO: After being denied authorization to start a cannabis club by the government, a group of

citizens decided to go to court. Judges in the case ruled 4-1 that prohibiting the group to grow and exchange marijuana among themselves is unconstitutional. The court ordered the health agency to legalize the club and not interfere with its activities.

The ruling only applies to people in the club but could eventually spread to the rest of Mexico as the reasoning behind the decision, according to *The Metro*, was "pot may cause some degree of harm in large quantities – but so do alcohol and tobacco and they are allowed, subject to regulation. Prohibition is too heavy handed when compared to the risk." There are currently five petitions ready to go before the court which, if ruled the same way, would make it possible to change the laws and make recreational use legal.



Nigerian Smugglers Can't Keep Stories Straight

LAGOS: The Nigerian Police Border Patrol Unit stormed the beach at the Seme-Badagry area after receiving a report about suspected smugglers. The unit arrested one man at the beach,

Ismaila Aliu, while the other suspects escaped. Aliu admitted to police that he is a smuggler in the area but denied

knowing anything about the marijuana

contained in the 20 bags police found at the raid site. He claimed that he was called about a "job" to carry the bags into the country but was never told they carried the drug.

After being arrested, police had Aliu call the man who told him about the job and ask for money for the police. His accomplice, Edwin Igwe, showed up at the station with the "bail money" and was promptly arrested. Igwe for his part claimed Aliu set up the deal with a woman from Ghana and knew what was in the bags as he had orchestrated the bargaining. The assistant inspector said the suspects will be handed over to the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency when they have finished their investigation.

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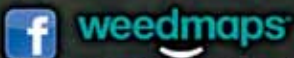
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GROW Tip

Flowering with LED vs. HPS

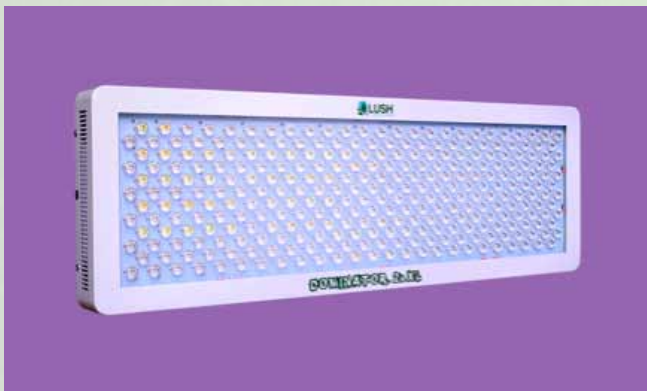
by Ben Horner



The NeoSol DS LED- 520 watt light from Illumitex. \$2389.00



SPYDR 1200 LED lighting system from BML Horticulture. \$2399.00



The Dominator 2x XL by Lush Lighting. \$1699.00

Recent innovations in LED lights are prompting new research comparing more traditional lighting, such as high-pressure sodium and double-ended bulbs side by side with LEDs. In the past, most LED's on the market failed to produce full spectrum light in significant enough strengths to produce the needed light to satisfy the needs of a mature cannabis plant in full flower.

Smaller LEDs, ranging up to 300 watts, have been proven to be inefficient for plants that are flowering. They just don't throw off enough light to produce good buds. However, lower wattage LEDs that have a spectrum for vegetative growth works well with clones and small plants. Some LED's have different setting for flower and veg, but many don't.

More recently, LEDs that are 600 watts and higher are producing as much if not more light than standard HPS. The LEDs run 30-40 percent more energy efficient, and require much less cooling. The yields are very similar in potency and bud structure. Sounds like a no-brainer, everyone should be growing with LEDs - but wait here is the catch. They cost between \$1700 and \$2400. So depending what your utility is charging you for power, it could take almost a year before you see real savings from your high ticket cutting-edge LED lighting system, but research shows that these new designs will pay for themselves as they produce just as good buds as traditional lamps. If heat is a big issue these LEDs are definitely the way to go.

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VGIP UPDATE

by Ben Horner



This month (December 2015) we face the biggest attack on the Michigan Medical Marijuana Act attempted yet. Some say the deal is done and Senator Rick Jones is poised to make good on his

promise to give into the Michigan State Police demands to remove caregivers from the dispensary process, to tightly control all cultivation and create

a per se limit for driving and marijuana. Detroit is also making it's move to regulate dispensaries and the same people that are trying to cut a deal with Jones and the MSP are hoping to remove as much of their competition as possible. The VGIP will be participating in a meeting in Ann Arbor that should shine some additional light to these events and by the first of

the year, we should know what MI Legalize will be in 2016.

In Gaylord, Al Witt and Chad Marrow have succeeded in passing the next stage the zoning amendment to allow "Provisioning Centers". The Planning board of Gaylord unanimously passed the amendment as written, and sent it back to city council for a vote. The Council is meeting Monday the 14th, and hopefully they will make the final vote then to approve the petition language and create

a safe environment for medical marijuana centers. The petition to zone these Provisioning Centers was drafted by the Cannabis Stakeholders Group, with the aid of the VGIP.

Next up is Cadillac.

Detroit is a microcosm of the entire state of Michigan in my opinion. Currently the city is trying to enact an ordinance to regulate dispensaries, similar to what we have here in Flint. However, unlike Flint, there is no grandfather clause that will protect the existing dispensaries outside of the zoning that has been approved by the zoning department. Some of the dispensary organizations in Detroit seek to eliminate their competition, according to statements made by leaders of National Patient Rights Association (NPRO). The NPRO has led the lobbying for dispensary bills in Lansing and many feel they have gone too far to get what they want.

According to Lansing insiders, the Medical Marijuana Facilities bill, and the Secured Transportation Bill have been tied together, which will create a state controlled seed to sale system. If passed, dispensaries will be legal only if they are able to get a local license and agree to acquire all medical marijuana from state controlled grow-facilities. Caregivers can apply for a commercial growers license, but they will have to adhere to industrial rules that require state monitored tracking, special licensing, taxing, testing and secured transportation. Be sure to call

you lawmakers and let them know how you feel. There are over a dozen lobbyists working for various industry insiders to make the deal happen, and they have put a lot of money and compromise with law enforcement to make this happen.



Senator Jones

Sources have told us that Senator Jones is highly motivated to push it through before the end of the December session. In December of 2013, Senator Jones pushed through the Walsh bills, which put restrictions on outdoor growing, illegal transportation and restrictions of doctors that recommend medical marijuana. Looks like he is about to try it again. I personally am posing as a religious nut case to spread as much fear in the Republican leadership as possible. (It's kinda fun, I feel like secret agent for freeing of the weed).



Next year, the VGIP will be working on a new set of petitions to ban the cultivation of GMO plants.

Legalization is coming, one way or another. The VGIP lead the way with the local initiatives that have brought us to the precipice of legal marijuana in Michigan. We are all rooting for MI Legalize to put it on the ballot in November of 2016. The original deadline is December 21 and the campaign is paying cash money for full sheets of signatures. If the deadline comes and they have not collected enough signatures the campaign will consider a strategy called the "Rolling Window" strategy to push back the deadline.



According to the Committee to Ban Fracking in Michigan, "The Committee to Ban Fracking in Michigan, a statewide ballot initiative campaign (www.letsbanfracking.org), reached the end of a six-month signature-collecting period with over 150,000 signatures. The Committee says it is keeping all of its options open for getting on the ballot in 2016 or 2018. The minimum number of valid signatures needed is 252,523." The ultimate deadline is June 1st, to make the 2016 ballot in Michigan

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WEED NEEDED WEDNESDAY

A Column by
John Sinclair



Highest greetings from Amsterdam at the beginning of the traditional Cannabis Cup week, where for the first time since 1988 there will be no *High Times* Cannabis Cup in the marijuana capitol of the world and no Thanksgiving Day awards for the best weed grown in Holland.

I first came to Amsterdam for the 11th Cannabis Cup in 1998, where I served as High Priest and performed at the Melkweg club nightly with my band of Blues Scholars from New Orleans. I had such a good time that I begged *High Times* to bring me back the next year, and that's when I fell in with Michael Veling of the 420 Café. He sponsored my visits to the Cannabis Cup for the next three years and convinced me to relocate from New Orleans to Amsterdam after the 16th Cup in 2003, offering me a more or less permanent base of operations at his coffeeshop ever since.

So I've been on hand for the past 16 Cannabis Cups in Amsterdam, long before the legalization of medical marijuana in America and the establishment of what are now several Medical Cannabis Cups in the U.S., plus full-scale Cannabis Cups celebrating legalized marijuana in the states of Colorado, Washington and Oregon. They even have a Medical Cannabis Cup in Clio, Michigan that has caused quite a bit of excitement for smokers in the Flint area for the past two years

But there's no more Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam, the home of its origin. The

International Cannabis Cup was moved to Jamaica this year, where weed has finally found official acceptance, and was held in conjunction with the local ganja community as "Rastafari Rootzfest" last month at a space, the magazine says, "just a few yards from Negril's gorgeous Seven Mile Beach where warm sunshine and spliffs ruled the day."

High Times reports that "several thousand" persons attended the "Rastafari Rootzfest" last month, certainly netting the sponsors a tidy sum in admission (or

"judges") fees. And the money-making aspects of the original Cannabis Cup in Amsterdam have been shifted to the ever-growing number of medical and recreational Cups in the U.S.A., where the costs don't involve shipping a staff of people across the ocean every November and dealing with the transportation arrangements of 1200 or more so-called "judges" in a foreign country each fall.

So it's very interesting to be in the coffeeshops of Amsterdam this week in the absence of the Cannabis Cup and the





hundreds of eager marijuana tourists it has brought from the U.S.A. and around the world every Thanksgiving week for the past 27 years. Business in the shops doesn't seem to be suffering per se, but it's quite a different vibe from that generated by the smokers on a mission who've been attracted by the *High Times* event every year since I've been coming here.

But now it seems to be back to normal, which is pretty hip to begin with, and several local coffeeshops have banded together to initiate their own festivities this year under the name of the Amsterdam Unity Cup, held at the Melkweg the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday before Thanksgiving. I attended the Tuesday event last night but there wasn't anything happening at all except for a deejay in the Oude Zaal playing a lot of corny records at high volume to an audience of none. My friend William, long-time cannabis manager at the 420 Café and its Dutch Flowers annex, explained that the group of coffeeshop people were taking an exploratory approach this year to see if they could make it happen in the absence of the traditional organizers, the *High Times* collective from New York City.

If all went well logistically, William surmised, the local coffeeshop veterans would make a better publicized effort next year at this time to deliver on their promise to "bring you the people's choice of the finest strains from the best coffee shops Amsterdam has to offer" while claiming that "the traditional dates have been taken over for the new annual Cup event in & around Amsterdam." You can get more information at amsterdam-unity-cup.com.

The evacuation of Amsterdam by *High Times* represents an ugly victory for the city and the federal government

in their lengthening campaign to shrink the cannabis business community in the Netherlands and try to shed the image of the world's hot spot for drug tourism in the hope of attracting the more lucrative family-oriented tourist trade enjoyed by most western destinations.

Unlike the western United States, where the newly legalized cannabis industry is beginning a concerted effort to introduce normal Americans to the pleasures and benefits of marijuana in an effort to increase sales, the Dutch authorities want to drive the cannabis tourists away and shun their voluminous business which is said to amount to 25% of all tourism dollars spent here.

The present government seems to feel that the Netherlands have suffered for more than 40 years under the stigma of being the number one destination for marijuana smokers all over the world. The unique Dutch tolerance of the marijuana smoker as a full citizen is regarded with scorn and apprehension by virtually every western nation save Spain and Portugal. The highly civilized approach to marijuana smoking adopted by the Dutch hasn't even begun to penetrate the thick skulls of the American authorities, who remain loath to allow smoking the sacrament on the premises where it may be traded.

I've related these facts before in this space, but the Dutch system allows the purchase and consumption of cannabis products on the premises of specialized cafes called coffeeshops, which are allowed to stock 500 grams of marijuana and hashish for sale over the counter. Consumers may purchase up to 5 grams of cannabis in a coffeeshop and take it with them—as in a Michigan dispensary—or enjoy the great local custom of taking a seat, sipping a coffee or juice drink, rolling

up joints and smoking them alone or with friends, reveling in the companionship of fellow smokers in a warm and relaxed atmosphere.

This system has worked without fail for the marijuana smoker in the Netherlands since 1972 or so. Free-style marijuana coffeeshops were established and proliferated throughout Amsterdam without restraint (numbering 750 at the highest point) until the government decided the cannabis explosion had gone too far without the guiding hand of the authorities and began the process of registering and regulating the coffeeshop industry about 20 years ago.

They've tightened things up considerably ever since, as I've reported in this column, until now there are probably less than 200 coffeeshops in Amsterdam itself. Tourists have been barred from frequenting coffeeshops and buying weed in quite a few smaller towns along the eastern border, and there's even been an attempt to force Dutch smokers to register with the government.

When I left Detroit last month they were talking a lot of crazy shit about registering and regulating the 150 to 200 marijuana dispensaries that have sprung up in the city. What they need to do is convert the dispensaries to coffeeshops where people may gather peacefully and enjoy their weed and each other in peace. The City should enable as many shops to operate as possible, establish a modest licensing fee and tax the sales of products in the shops.

Otherwise, let us alone and let us have our smoke. FREE THE WEED!

—Amsterdam
November 23-24, 2015

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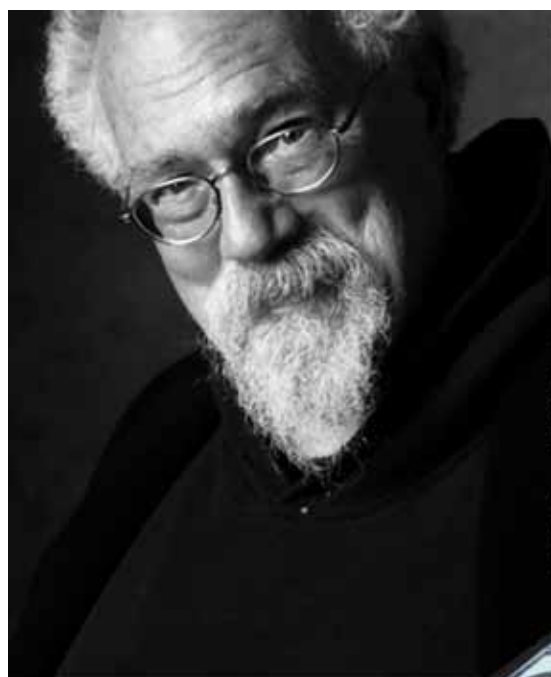
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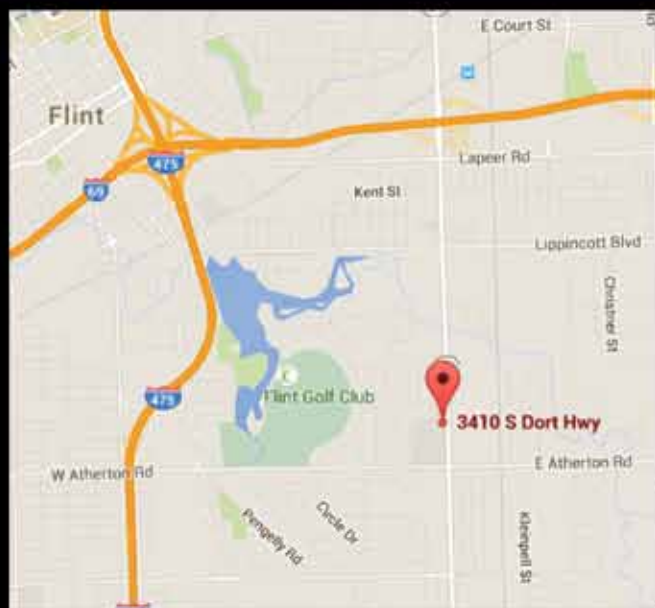


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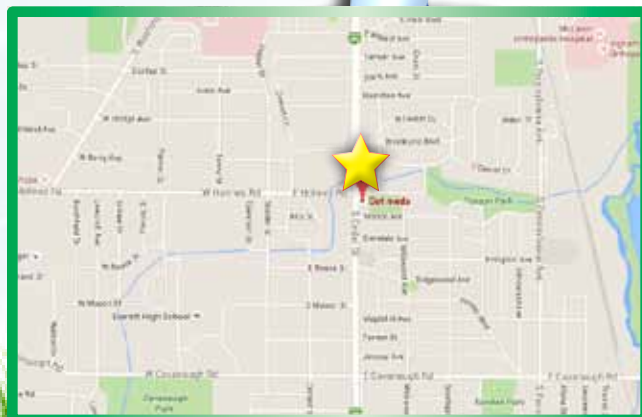
Got Meds is Definitely on the Nice List!

by Ben Horner

A warm, festive atmosphere gives patients and caregivers a place to feel comfortable and enjoy some fellowship, and consume cannabis without feeling like second-class citizens. Got Meds is a one of a kind in Lansing. Nowhere else can you experience a fully equipped lounge, play pool, and smoke down with your homies. Cypress Hill would be proud of the sticky-icky Christmas tree, but for real, these guys have serious heart. Gathering Toys for Tots for the Salvation Army shows that they care about more than just smoking major chronic.



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With \$5 grams, people from all over the state are mobbing down to Got Meds. Personally, I love supporting such a great place that gives back to their community. Dab sessions in full affect. It's worth the drive. Bring your girl, put up your feet on the comfy couches, and kick it with a blunt of darkness.

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A Simple Guide to Vaping with Pens



by Citizen Jay

Vaping... it's an entirely different world, especially these days. The term has come to refer to so many different styles of cannabis consumption as well as the umpteen number of new products on the market. Add to that the vast availability and popularity of e-cigarettes and the conundrum really becomes a jumble... This short guide to cannabis vaporizing—and in particular vape pens—will hopefully shine some light through all the fog.

Traditionally, vaporizing refers to the use of a convection heat current to warm cannabis flowers to the point of just before they are able to combust. This releases the essential oils from the plant without burning the actual plant material. In so doing, the consumer inhales the active cannabinoids without any of the nasty by-products that are produced from combustion—particularly those volatile carbon compounds and the accompanying nasty free-radicals that are purported to absolutely ruin you.

Vaporizing flowers has become very popular over the last several years for the obvious reason that it has proven health benefits over smoking. It used to be that if you wanted to vaporize your flowers you were pretty much stuck to a desktop. Early vaporizers utilized large heating elements integrated into a tabletop unit. Several iterations are still available, notably

the Volcano and the Da Buddha/Silver Surfer brands. They work flawlessly.

Over the last several years, tabletop units have been augmented with hand held flower vaporizers. A ton of brands have hit the market recently. In general, they all work the same way. They contain a small chamber at one end to put your ground cannabis flower into with a simple mouthpiece and an electronic heating element/control also built into the unit. At first, these “hand-held” devices were quite bulky and not very efficient. But recently they’ve slimmed down considerably and the technology within them has advanced as well. Three notable and popular brands include the PAX II, The Black-Out Dry Herb 2.0, and the Magic Flight Launch Box. Handheld flower vapes are generally convenient and inconspicuous. They work well enough, though they can be a bit labor intensive.

These days vaporizing is no longer relegated the realm of flowers. Enter DABS the ultimate in vapor consumption. Most people who refer to “doing dabs” or “smoking dabs” may not realize that they are not actually “smoking” at all. Dabs are composed of cannabis oil. They contain no plant material—that is no cellulose or other constituent plant parts. When you place them on a hot nail they vaporize. The resulting product is vaporized oil—not smoke. That is why you always hear people tell you not to hold in your dabs. The vapor doesn’t absorb into your lungs so much as it coats them with oil. It’ll make you cough for sure. But eventually your body will break the oil down and consume the cannabinoids within. It’s all good....

Without going into a long and boring chemistry lesson, suffice it to say that dabs can be made using a variety of different production techniques. They are mostly made utilizing some form of solvent that is flushed through cannabis plant material under pressure. The various solvents strip the cannabis oils from the plant material without binding to them. The resultant goop is then purged of any residual solvent and finished in various ways to create shatter, wax, budder, crumble, oil, etc....

A note on water hash. Water IS a solvent. In fact, it’s known as the universal solvent. But most people don’t think of it that way when referring to dabs. Water hash, or bubble hash as it is more commonly known, is not generally good for dabbing. However, some companies have refined their hash making abilities to the point where their products are actually dabable. Essential Extracts and T.H.E. Melts are two companies that immediately come to mind (available in California and Colorado). These companies use incredibly high micron counts when filtering their cannabis through cold water. The resultant product is so clean and clear that it will actually melt rather than combust. These kinds of dabs are usually called “solventless” because they were not made with any kind of hydrocarbon such as butane, hexane, propane, and the like. Solventless dabs tends to require a higher temperature to vaporize. While solventless may make for some smooth dabs on a hot nail, they don’t seem to work so well in any of the vape pens currently available on the market.

The most common and probably the most popular of the solvents utilized to make dabs is butane. Butane Honey/Hash Oil has been around for much longer than people generally give it credit for. Honey Oil was smoked by hippies in the late 60s and throughout the 70s by heating up butter knives on a stove. They would place a small dab of Honey Oil on the end of a butter knife and inhale the vapors resulting from pressing a second heated knife onto the end of it. This was called “doing hot knives.” Honey Oil extractors have been on the market for decades. Most stoners ignored the ads because they had no idea what Honey Oil was...but I digress.

Butane hash oil is extracted under strict controls in most areas where it is commercially available. The commercial operations use heavy duty closed-loop

extraction systems and vacuum ovens adapted from the food and cosmetics industries. These machines greatly reduce the risks involved in exploiting such a volatile substance to extract hash while ensuring no residual solvent is left in the finished product.

The extraction process itself is the only thing dangerous about BHO, as it is more commonly referred to. I wrote an article about this very topic a couple of years back for the *MMMR*—BHO is Not Dangerous and People Should Stop Bitching (<http://mmmr-mag.blogspot.com/2014/06/bho-is-not-dangerous-people-should-stop.html>). BHO is available in a number of different forms, as I've alluded to above. Most of these forms are really nothing more than a matter of physical finishing techniques. For example, if you mechanically manipulate shatter it becomes wax/budder. BHO, and dabs in general, are usually consumed by placing a small amount of the material onto a heated "nail" of either titanium or quartz glass construction. Thus the term, "dabs," which actually refers to the small amount of material needed for optimum effect. The nail sits on a "rig," which is essentially just a small, specialized bong. When it comes to vaporizing BHO, as with most solvent-derived hash products, pens have become very popular over the last several years.

There are several pens on the market that mimic the function of a rig. These provide a small crucible with an inserted heating element and a removable dome—sometimes integrating water. Pens like this have become very popular and are available in a large number of iterations. Essentially, you place your material directly onto the heating element in the crucible, cover it with the dome, and a battery heats the element vaporizing your dabs at the push of a button.

These pens are designed to consume shatter and wax in their more "solid" forms, if you will. They also work well with propane extractions, or PHO, which is another more "solid" form of cannabis concentrate utilizing a similar hydrocarbon extraction technique. While convenient, pens like these tend to get dirty quickly, which can adversely affect the taste of your dabs over time. A good pen of this type will come with an extra replaceable heating element or at least make them available. This way you can replace the element when the goop within becomes too much to bear.... Cloud and Apex are two manufacturers that make good examples of these types of pens.

If you are going to vape oil in its more "solid" form (e.g., budder, wax, shatter, etc.) these types of traditional set ups are what

you're going to need. But not all oil is made with butane or propane. Carbon dioxide is the second most popular solvent used to extract cannabis to make dabs. CO₂ oil has some notable differences when compared with BHO. Most notably its viscosity. Unlike BHO or PHO, it is very difficult to get CO₂ oil to maintain a stable shape. It's naturally runny like honey. For this reason, CO₂ oil is usually sold in a syringe or in capsule form. If it's in a capsule, it's meant to be eaten. If it's in a syringe, however, it can be used in a variety of ways.

Most CO₂ oil that comes in a syringe will be inactivated, that is, it has not been decarboxylated. You can dab it just like any other "solid" extracted concentrate on any of the contraptions I mentioned above, though it will be messier. Several pens are available to consume CO₂ oil. Mostly, they use a generic form of cartridge that you can fill yourself—the original ATMOS pen comes to mind. It can be a bit tricky to get your CO₂ oil into the cartridge, but once it's in there it works very simply by heating an internal element that vaporizes your oils.

The Eclipse H2O Vape is another product that was specifically designed for consuming CO₂ oil through a rig. They also make a handheld pipe version. This contraption uses a borosilicate dram vial that you can fill with a bit of CO₂ oil and then heat externally with a small torch lighter to vaporize the contents within.

My favorite way to use CO₂ oil is to put it in my coffee. I love the taste and use only a small drop—enough for flavor, not to "medicate." I liken it to what I imagine the spice "mélange" from Frank Herbert's *DUNE* should taste like... allowing one to fold space and time, travelling without moving.

CO₂ oil pens have hit the market hard across the country with brands like O-pen Vape leading the way in several states. These pens come with a prepackaged removable CO₂ cartridge already affixed. The cartridges are replaceable and come in a variety of dosages and even strains.

There is a fundamental difference between purchasing a CO₂ oil pen with a preloaded cartridge and filling your own cartridge from a syringe. Specifically, those prepackaged cartridges are usually also mixed with some form of thinning agent—typically propylene glycol. This organic compound, with the chemical

formula C₃H₈O₂, is a viscous colorless liquid that is nearly odorless but possesses a faintly sweet taste and is commonly used in the food industry. This is mixed with the CO₂ oil to make it easier to handle and package at the manufacturing stage. It's a common practice borrowed from nicotine e-cig technology. Many people mistakenly misidentify the additive in these pens as polypropylene glycol, which is a completely different thing altogether and not so much with the good-for-you.

Prepackaged CO₂ pens are perfect for novice cannabis consumers and/or those who consume lightly. More experienced (i.e., tolerant) consumers may find these pens lacking in the oomph factor. In addition, CO₂ has a particular taste of its own and this can be imparted to your dabs.

Most concentrate connoisseurs are looking for flavor over anything else. They often speak of "terps," referring to the terpene profile of a particular strain. Terpenes are the organic compounds that impart flavor and smell to plant oils. The general rule is the "terprier" your hash is the better it's going to be... But since CO₂ has its own flavor profile it tends to come through, sometimes overpoweringly so. The analogy I often use to explain this involves my Soda Stream at home. Have you ever noticed the "taste" of club soda or soda water (seltzer)? It's consistent. That's the CO₂. At home we drink our tap water. When my wife and I moved into our home 15 years ago we had the water tested and it tested great. Our water tastes like mountain freshness right from the tap. But put it through the Soda Stream and BAM! Tastes just like seltzer out of a bottle from the store...CO₂. That same flavor tends to impart itself on dabs made from CO₂ so that after a while anyway, they all start to taste the same.

So there you have it. A simple guide to vape pens. There's a lot out there to choose from. Just try to remember these few simple things. Flower vapes can be handheld these days and they work great. But flower vaping and concentrate vaping are very different. If you're a novice cannabis consumer, stick to vaping flowers. When you advance to dabbing, the prepackaged CO₂ oil pens are perfect to start. If you're a heavy hitter skip the prepackaged CO₂ pens for the fill it yourself vapes. These will allow you to refill them with your choice of CO₂ product without any fillers like propylene glycol. Or skip the CO₂ altogether and go with a pen that has a crucible and dome and try some BHO or PHO. Remember to keep it clean and replace the crucible often for best taste. Whichever method you try always remember to keep on tokin'!



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Dream Pillows

*The perfect stocking-stuffer
that no one has...*

by Rebecca Veenstra

As the holidays grow near are you stressing over what to get all your great friends? Are you trying to budget for family and drawing blanks? Do you find yourself thinking you wish you could come up with the perfect little gift that no one has?

Ta Dah!...

Let me introduce you to the fabulous, easy to make, super budget friendly stocking stuffer no one has...

The Dream Pillow!

What is a dream pillow you ask? A dream pillow is a small pouch that contains one of many herbal recipes to induce calm slumber and restful dreams. Historically dream pillows have been used in many cultures. Folklore from Medieval Europe says that certain herbs placed in a young woman's pillow will induce her to dream of her true love. Many more cynical texts suggest that the practice originated as more of an air freshener in the days before Maytag and Febreeze.

Naturally, the scent of the fresh herbs would make for a more pleasant boudoir, but you may find it interesting to note that Native Americans would sleep on pillows with Osha root otherwise known as bear root which has antiseptic properties. Medieval pillow makers often included Myrrh which also is antibacterial and cleansing.

As far as inducing a restful night's sleep though, you might be surprised to learn that there is real science behind the concept.

Humans are extremely responsive to odors. Our first cranial nerve is our olfactory nerve. That means that the first thing our body as an organism identifies in our environment is aromas. This was helpful to us before we became "civilized" because it allowed us to identify danger and decay as well as food, water sources, potential mates, and weather changes. This property of our anatomy still works in our world of air fresheners and disinfectants.

So, the idea that the aromas of herbs in our pillows might induce a nice calm night's rest is not altogether absurd. Many herbs have been studied to have a medicinal property referred to as soporific, or tending to cause sleep. Examples would be herbs like catnip, lavender, hops, chamomile, marijuana, and rose petals.

There are many more herbs and recipes that would have similar effects. Some recipes report that they can enhance dream recall or induce dreaming of one's destiny, or dreaming of one's true love. Some recipes say they can increase the libido, or relax a stressful person. The folklore behind the recipe can make it more interesting as a gift because you have a little story to go along with it. The general idea is to choose a recipe that the recipient would enjoy. So, if your sister hates licorice don't include anise in her recipe just because it says to.

It is worth noting that hops pillows have traditionally been used to decrease pain and inflammation. Hops is a soporific herb as well. If you are

looking to relieve discomfort and induce sleepiness Hops is a wonderful addition to a dream pillow. For pain a person could apply the hops pillow to the affected limb either cool or warm.

So, how do you make a dream pillow you ask? The first thing you want to do is gather the herbs you wish to put into the pillows. You could gather them yourself from the wild or your garden, buy them from a store, or find them on line.

If you choose to buy the herbs you can purchase them in very small amounts or large depending on the number of pillows you think you will make. The fragrances tend to wear out over time if they are not stored in air tight containers. Even when precautions are taken it is not uncommon for herbs to lose their aromas when stored. You would want to store any excess herbs carefully or just purchase what you will need for this immediate project. In this instance, buying bulk to save money might work against you over time. The possibilities of combinations are truly endless. You could also use essential oils to create a lovely effect if you don't want to work with dry herbs. Here are some examples of popular recipes that have stood the test of time. That doesn't mean you can't invent the latest and greatest version yourself. Just experiment with what you like.

Ok, so now you have your herbs chosen. The next thing to do is to pick out some fabric. Most any fabric will work. Popular types of material to use would be flannel, cotton, satin, or silk. It would be very resourceful and

eco-friendly to cut up some remnants you have at home, things like skirts, shirts, pillow cases, sheets... if it's fabric it has potential. If you head out to the fabric store or buy on line you may find it easier to determine the number of pillows you are going to make by choosing a specific size piece of material.

For example, if you buy a yard of fabric that is 60 inches wide you can cut thirty 6 inch by 6 inch square pillows out of that. Dream pillows are traditionally very small. They are put into the pillow case of the larger pillow you sleep on or else hung from the head board. It would be unusual to see one bigger than eight to ten inches. Square is the most common shape but that doesn't mean you can't get creative.

Once you have cut your shapes out of the fabric you will need a needle and thread, a sewing machine, or a handy friend or relative willing to stitch the pockets together.

You want to have the pillow sewn together on all sides but leave a small opening on one side to allow you to insert the herbs and stuffing.

Once you have the pillows sewn, the next step is to add the herbs and stuffing. You could use just about anything to stuff the pillows from buckwheat shells, cannabis seeds, polyester pillow filling, cotton (cotton balls work well), shredded fabric, straw, feathers, rice, beans, popcorn, etc.

To include the herbs, there are several ways you can choose to add them. One way is to put the herbs into a muslin bag and then incorporate that into the pillow filling. This method is nice because it contains the herbs so that they don't poke out through the fabric or shift around in the pillow. You basically fluff the polyfil or whatever you stuff the pillow with around the satchel of herbs until you have a smooth shape. The scent will come through the fabrics.

You can also incorporate the loose herbs right into the stuffing. It helps to grind up larger pieces and seeds into powder with a coffee bean grinder or a



blender. The aroma will be stronger and there won't be any hard pellets or sticks to make the pillow uncomfortable.

If essential oils are more your style you would want to put several drops of your oil combination on a few cotton balls. Then, add those to the pillow before you stitch it shut.

The best way to stitch the pillows shut after you add the herbs is by hand. Use a needle and thread to carefully slip stitch the hole closed. This part is tedious but the devil is in the details. You want to make sure you take your time with this step so that the pillow holds up over time and the herbs don't leak out with use. Once the pillows are

completely assembled it is advisable to store them in separate zip lock baggies until the holidays arrive. That way when you gift them the scent will be fresh.

Most pillows, if made with strongly scented herbs, will last a year or more. A nice way to make a more complete gift is to include a blank dream journal and a novelty ink pen to go with it. Bundle it with a nice bow and you will have an elegant unique present that anyone would appreciate.

So as the holidays sneak up on you don't panic. There's still plenty of time to gather up some herbs and nice fabric. Your friends and family will be so impressed with your thoughtfulness and creativity.

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*Rebecca Veenstra is a
Chartered Herbalist
and founder of
New World Seeds
in Traverse City, MI*

A few recipe suggestions...

A popular Native American recipe for sweet dreams:

Lavender flowers, mugwort, rose petals, white sage, hops
Yerba Santa, lilac flowers, balsam fir and osha root

A recipe from medieval times for divining one's true love:

Lavender, Dandelion, myrrh, Hibiscus & Rose petals

Insomnia recipe:

Hops, rose petals, calendula, catnip, dill & agrimony

Recipe for clarity and lightness in one's dreams:

Lemon verbena, Rosemary, peppermint, Hops, mugwort, lavender & rose petals

Recipe for enhancing one's libido and promoting sensual dreams:

Cloves, cinnamon, cardamom, hops, catnip and rose petals

A popular pet recipe for calming and also repelling pesky bugs:

Eucalyptus, lavender, pennyroyal, rosemary, thyme & wormwood.

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Toledo's Success, and Responsible Ohio Fail This Year: With Kevin Spitler and Sean Nestor

by Ben Horner

Stepping into the Toledo Hemp Center and being greeted by super-activist Kevin Spitler, was like being reacquainted with a long lost relative. I brought in a couple dozen blankets for another one of Kevin's blanket drivers for the homeless, which donated over 665 pounds of clothing this year. Mr. Spitler has been doing these for years. I first met Kevin while participating in a meeting with other dispensary owners in an organization that many of us used to belong to. Kevin left Kalamazoo and returned to Toledo to take care of his mom.



"When my mother was sick from cancer in Toledo I was driving back and forth from Kalamazoo to Toledo a lot. And I mean a lot lot. During the time I spent in Toledo I started networking with many like-minded people in the marijuana movement. That's when I came across NW Ohio NORML. I ended up attending one of their meetings and they were discussing what they wanted to accomplish as an organization. See they were brand new. I brought up all the initiatives we have been doing in Michigan. I said to them how come no one in Ohio does local initiatives? I was confused. I said to them you could put anything on the ballot, anything you want. That's when issue 1 was initially created. In my eyes the movement was inspired by my mother's fight. As more cities follow Toledo's path I know my mama is smiling down on me."



September 15th the people of Toledo passed the Sensible Marijuana Ordinance. Sean Nestor, Campaign Manager for Sensible Toledo, popped into the Toledo Hemp Center when I was there and he gave us the inside scoop on how this was accomplished.

“Just under 6,000, collect 13,000,” explained Sean Nestor. “Collecting signatures was one of the easiest jobs to do. It was all done with volunteers. We knew Kevin and trusted him, so the Toledo Hemp center became a drop off point.”

“The petition changed the penalties for marijuana charges in Toledo. We reduced the penalties under the city law for possession or cultivation 200 grams or less, making these charges a 5th degree misdemeanor. It’s what we call a decrim or decriminalization petition.”

After this big victory in Toledo, many people in Ohio and around the country believed that Ohio would be the next state to legalize marijuana for adult use. As we now know, this did not happen, and blow back from those who opposed a state monopoly successfully passed an anti-monopoly incentive. This event has radically changed how big money investors in the new emerging cannabis industry move forward with their agenda.

“Everyone from Sensible Toledo are against issue 3. We decided we wanted legalization on our terms,” explained Kevin. Using the network of Spitler has developed at the Toledo Hemp Center, he lead the grassroots resistance movement.

“They really wanted to completely take over the market. From my experience working local caregivers when I was running my dispensary owner, I find that the economy works much better that way. People spend that money in local businesses. It wasn’t real legalization, they just called it that. If you grow your own and transport it out of your house, you are busted.”

Sean Nestor added enthusiastically, “They spent 25 million hoping to have a full monopoly, and they lost. It doesn’t take that much to win.”

Ohioans to end Prohibition is currently circulating a petition to fully legalize cannabis in Ohio, working with local volunteers. They have up to five years to collect the signatures. Interested parties can connect with the grassroots

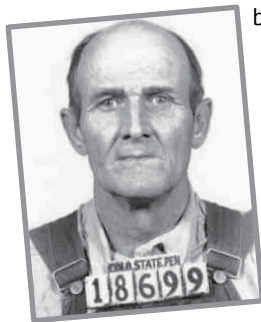
petition drive. Check out their website: www.legalizeohio2016.org

Recently, the folks from Responsible Ohio have looked into forming a partnership with grassroots organizations and are considering another, less monopolistic petition. Kevin Spitler will continue to educate people about the benefits of using hemp as a medicine at the Toledo Hemp Center. Kevin has done community cookouts, blanket drives for the homeless, and many other outreach programs.



'tis The Season...

(as if it's not always THE SEASON.....)



by Adam Brook

I appreciate the readers and the support I have gotten since returning to The MMMR. I was shocked that NO one knew Samuel R. Caldwell's inmate number 18699. I thought that was an easy one..... This months contest is below.....

Here is a review of some of the products that have come my way. I found them to be worthy so I thought you may be interested in a short review..

I was given a PAIN BLOCK.....A wonderfully flavored 100 mg activated Cannabis Oil Gummy block. It looks like a Large LEGO. I was given a CHERRY COLA flavored one..... Tasted GREAT...Didn't

have that oily taste that some edibles have....Now I have had many edibles....Many at 100mg.....Can't always tell I ate it... Not in this case. I had had a pretty rough day so about an hour before bed I ate the thing.....it's time to get in bed...TRUST me I will sleep well and you will too if you get one of these PAIN BLOCKS. Ask for them at your local dispensary.....or hit me up and I can point you in the right direction....Once I can see the compass....



My friends at GenotypeA² hooked me up with their new G-nail. It is a nice compact unit that is about the size of my original Walkman (youngsters, Google it) The box part has a nice GenotypeA² logo laser etched on it.... the unit came with a nice 4 ft long cord for the nail and my choice of a ceramic nail. It fits

nicely on my Nexus mini puck.... it gets hot extremely fast.... like with in a minute.....and I'm not talking stoner time.....The directions were too simple...One button makes it hotter one lowers the temp.....I really like this unit. Didn't think I would like an e-nail, BOY was I wrong... EVERYONE needs one! I take it with me when I travel...They also have some killer gear, I

have heard lots of good things from people about them when I started bragging about my G-nail... Check out GenotypeA² at @genotype_a2 in IG or ...

The best thing I was asked to try was a SEEEO Vhit RISE Dual Coil for my portable dabbing pleasure. The coolest part of this unit is the rotating tip. It bends at an angle that makes more sense. You are not holding it sideways. I have found that the duel coil in the ceramic pot works great. The kit came with 2 extra coils.... I have used one coil for two months, heavy use and it's still killing it.....I am a big fan of the SEEEO products and want to thank my homeboy OID for the gift.



Hope you all have a happy holiday and look for the Adventures of The Big Green Bus, coming soon....

Have you signed the MiLegalize petition?

As Nike says JUST DO IT!!!! No swoosh needed.

The reason to support this is that it moves the ball forward. While it may not be perfect, I see the lack of a ballot initiative as a bigger problem. Even if you disagree with it, sign it so you can vote no in the ballot box...JUST SIGN!!!!

This months contest is easy if you ask me:

Where did the High Times Freedom Fighters have their campground here in Michigan for HASH BASH?

Text your answer to 313-999-0329.

Questions, Comments or Complaints hit me up.....



Peace,

Adam L. Brook

IG:adamlbrook

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The Christmas Wish List

by Daniel L. Price, Esq.

It's that time of year again. Christmas is nearly here! You know, Christmas is such a wonderful time of year. Whether you believe that Christmas is a religious holiday or not, it does not matter. Christmas time is exciting and brings happiness and cheer to people. It also brings with it the spirit of giving.

I like to view Christmas as the time of year when people come together and share the fruits of their labors of the year that is ending, not only with those they love, but also with total strangers. Of course we all have that Christmas wish list, whether we are young or old. So I thought I'd share my list with you, the readers. I do this because this magazine is dedicated to bringing information to those who are denied their freedom to ingest marijuana, making otherwise good people criminals. So here goes:

1. I wish that people could bring themselves to see that when we become intolerant of the beliefs and actions of others, that it leads to laws which destroy freedom.
2. I wish that people of all walks of life could realize that when we accept laws that make it a crime to engage in activities that leave no victims, like ingesting marijuana, that it drives yet another nail in freedom's coffin.
3. I wish that all people can come together and understand that marijuana is just another plant which nature provided us for our benefit.
4. I wish that the people who elect those who represent us come to understand that when we elect people to office that it should

be for their commitment to protecting our freedom, and not to their commitment to destroy the freedom of those with whom we do not agree.

5. I wish that elected officials would simply open their eyes and see the truth of the reality that when they write laws which deny freedom, they are destroying their own freedom, as well as the very foundation of the creation of our wonderful country.

6. I wish that all police officers take a moment to remember that their purpose is, not to make money for the state, but to protect our freedoms from those who would rob from us or harm us, and to serve us when we are in need of assistance, like the MI State Trooper who I saw changing a flat tire for a motorist this past summer on westbound I-96 near Ionia, MI. To that trooper I salute you and say thank you for all of us.

7. I wish that all people within the justice system would remember that those who stand in the courts are human beings and not just numbers.

8. I wish that not one more young man or woman will die or become maimed on a battlefield in the name of freedom, for the benefit of yet another dictator who will murder his own countrymen with the help of politicians in America.

9. I wish that every person who knows another who might go without during Christmas will extend a hand of generosity and give a gift so that all may know the joy of giving.

No, the legalization of marijuana will not grant my wishes. But the realization of these wishes will bring about the legalization of marijuana. I can say this because it will

bring about the restoration of our freedom for which so many have died, or were forced to give up so much in the fight for freedom.

For those of you who fight for the legalization of marijuana, you also fight for freedom, whether you realize it or not. It is for this that you are to be admired and respected. Yet, you will be discriminated against and prosecuted for exercising your freedom. Yet, many of you will keep fighting because it is right to fight for freedom. For this you should understand there are others in this fight with you. You are not alone. Search each other out. Join together no matter your differences. Recognize that the right to be free does not interfere with others' freedom, nor does another's freedom interfere with your rights.

Maybe, just maybe, this Christmas Wish List will come true, if we band together and demand freedom. I wish all of you a wonderful Christmas, and a freer, New Year.

Oh yeah, I almost forgot, I have 10 wishes, so here goes:

10. This wish is more personal. I wish that the person who I refer to as "dearest" will always know that my meeting her and her letting me remain in her life, is the greatest honor ever bestowed upon me. You know who you are, and I hope I forever remain worthy of this honor.

I'll be back next month, and by all means, till then, keep rolling on.

Disclaimer: I frequently become overwhelmed with joy and the spirit of giving during the Christmas season. It is a once a year occurrence, so don't expect it all the time.

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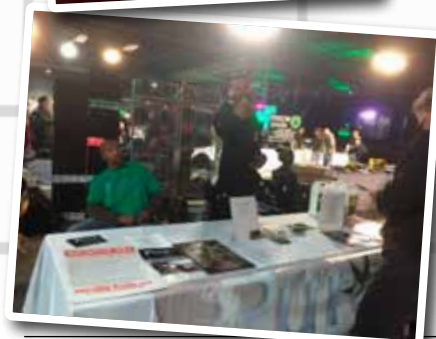
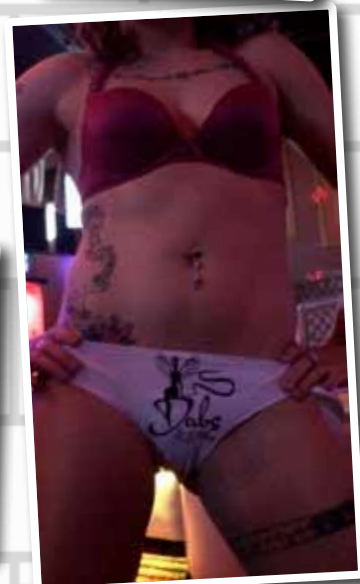
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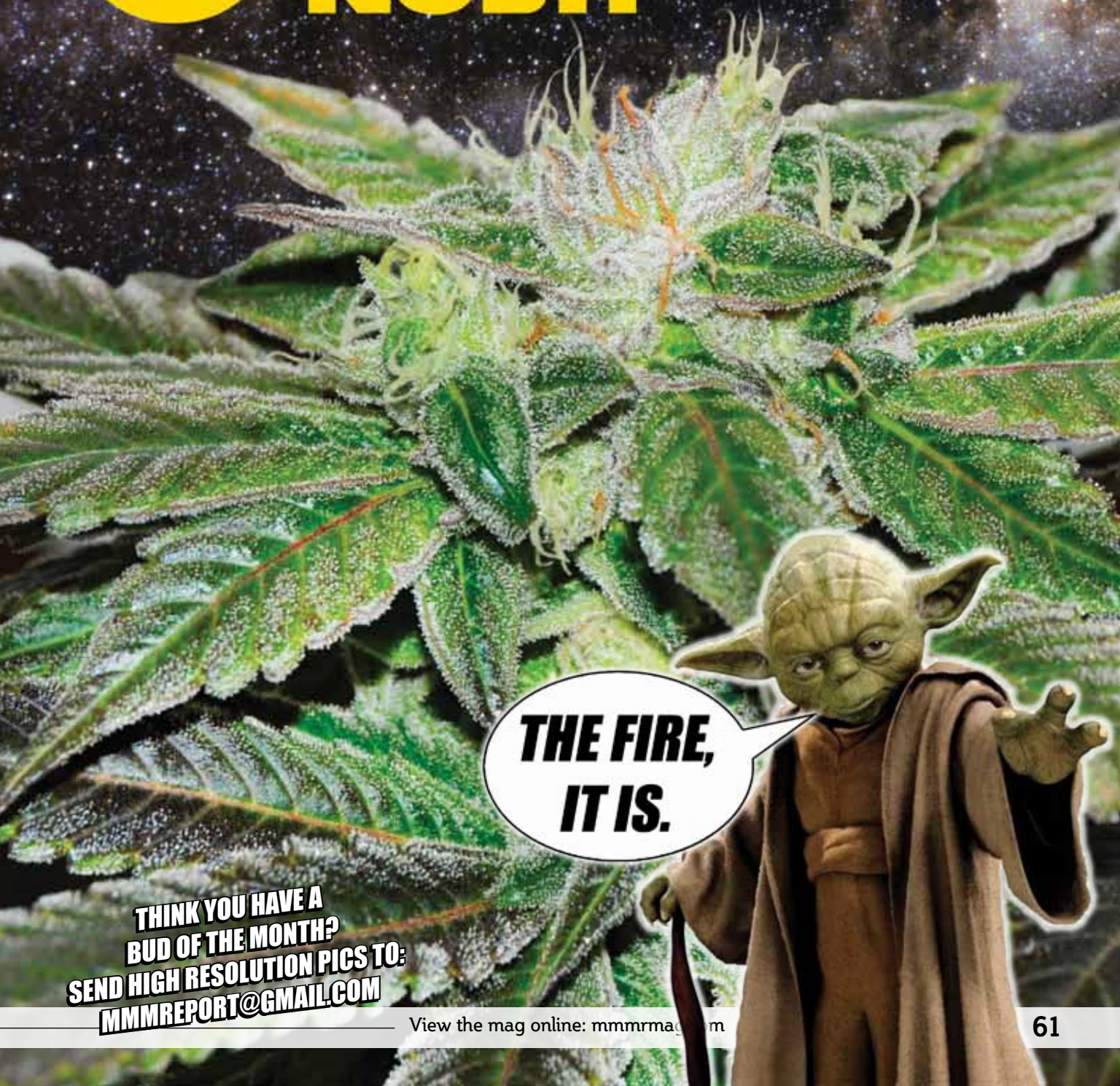
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DECEMBER 2015 BUD OF THE MONTH:



JEDI KUSH



**THE FIRE,
IT IS.**

**THINK YOU HAVE A
BUD OF THE MONTH?
SEND HIGH RESOLUTION PICS TO:
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MMM Report Feature Artist:

DRAGON WAGON

by Hemptress Jolene

Do you like bluegrass folk rock that takes you on an exploration of Americana music and a shot of whiskey? If you answered yes to both those things, then the Michigan Roots band Dragon Wagon just might be for you. Dragon Wagon may once have referred to a tank, now also refers to this tank of music. Since forming in 2008, they have become a powerhouse of Michigan roots music. The debut CD Dragon Wagon is definitely worth the download.

As a huge fan of roots music, I first caught Michigan's Dragon Wagon at Farmfest in Northern Michigan and what made me want to see them again was the energy and personality they brought their music. This band made people get up and dance, their wasn't a person in that crowd that



wasn't bouncing something. To me, that is the sign of a good roots band, they make you move. They make you dance, they make you want to sing right along with them, even if that singing comes out as a caterwaul. It seems they are always good with whiskey! That first performance was something else and I truly enjoyed the energy and showmanship they bring to the table.

Led by front man Don Schiender, Dragon Wagon is not only known for original and catchy new age Americana songs, but, also, for putting a new twist on old traditionals and bringing them back for a new generation of listeners to enjoy. Mandolinist, Troy Radikin recognized as one of Detroit's best mandolin players, enriches the layers of this five piece with pickin' solos that sometimes just can't be beat. The



explosively fast and up beat fiddle playing of Megan Ulrich should definitely be mentioned, for where these boys go, she is right there waiting for them. The rhythm section is the beat of any good band and this one holds strong with steady smooth tempo and bass that keeps the house steady and the group in time. This steady rhythm section is provided by their talented bassist Mathew Myers and the beats of their supreme drummer Travis Aukerman

So, if you are out there hunting for some good banjo pickin', if you like a sweet beat and good mandolin licks, then you are looking to hop on the wagon on this roots music dragon! Dragon Wagon can be seen all around the state this holiday season. Look for them this December, their upcoming shows include December 4th and 5th, and December 11th and 12th! To learn more about their shows and the band itself, check out their website at www.dragonwagonband.com.... or give them the like on Facebook!



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December 2015 EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 7:49AM 5:06PM	2 7:50AM 5:05PM	3 7:51AM 5:05PM Detroit Dab Wars	4 7:52AM 5:05PM	5 7:53AM 5:05PM 2015 THE VAPOR CONVENTION December 5-6 Birch Run Expo Center
6 7:54AM 5:04PM Brunch, Brews, and a Movie: 2001: A Space Odyssey 11AM @Grand Rapids Brewing Company	7 7:55AM 5:04PM Conjunction of the Moon and Venus Detroit Dab Wars	8 7:56AM 5:04PM Happy Hanukkah! December 6-14	9 7:57AM 5:04PM	10 7:57AM 5:04PM Detroit Dab Wars	11 7:58AM 5:04PM New Moon	12 7:59AM 5:04PM Night of the Northern Lights (see ad on page 64)
13 8:00AM 5:05PM Geminids Meteor Shower	14 8:01AM 5:05PM Detroit Dab Wars	15 8:01AM 5:05PM	16 8:02AM 5:05PM	17 8:03AM 5:06PM Detroit City council Decides Fate of Dispensaries Detroit Dab Wars	18 8:04AM 5:06PM STAR WARS EPISODE VII THE FORCE AWAKENS	19 8:04AM 5:06PM
20 8:05AM 5:07PM	21 8:05AM 5:07PM Ursids Meteor Shower Detroit Dab Wars	22 8:06AM 5:08PM December Solstice	23 8:06AM 5:08PM BEAR GRYLZ ELEKTRICITY, PONTIAC	24 8:07AM 5:09PM Twas a Night Before Christmas Detroit Dab Wars	25 8:07AM 5:10PM Merry Christmas	26 8:07AM 5:10PM KWANZAA December 26 - January 1
27 8:08AM 5:11PM	28 8:08AM 5:12PM Detroit Dab Wars	29 8:08AM 5:12PM Mercury at Greatest Eastern Elongation	30 8:08AM 5:13PM Green Velvet Russell Industrial Center, Detroit	31 8:09AM 5:14PM NEW YEAR'S EVE Detroit Dab Wars	 HAPPY NEW YEAR	

Sunrise and sunset times shown for Lansing, Michigan. Times for other areas may vary.

If you know of an event that should be featured on the MMM Report calendar page, let us know! mmmreport@gmail.com

Jokes



Why is Santa always so jolly?

Because he knows where all the naughty girls live!



Why couldn't the life guard rescue the hippy?

Because he was too far out.



Why did the stoner eat a joint?

Because the car behind him had a roof rack.



A stoner sits on the balcony and smokes a fat joint. Suddenly a huge ball of flames rises up before him and vanishes in the sky. "Whoa" he said, as he lights another joint. Again, the flaming ball is seen and the stoner watches in awe. After another joint, and another rising, he goes back inside and says to his friend: "Man, I'm so thirsty right now!"

Dude answers: "No wonder, you were out on the balcony for three days!"





HOROSCOPES

DECEMBER 2015



CAPRICORN
(Dec 23 - Jan 20)

Go fuck yourself... nobody else wants to anyway. You are your own root of unlikeability.



TAURUS
(Apr 21 - May 21)

Your inability to compromise with others eclipses any warm vibes you may be trying to send. Learn to listen, or be prepared to forfeit your security.



VIRGO
(Aug 22 - Sep 23)

It's not ok to steal other people's roaches out of ashtray without asking. Just saying, you greedy little asshole.



AQUARIUS
(Jan 21 - Feb 19)

Your life has had way too many new beginnings lately. Unicorns, rainbows and feel good mumbo-jumbo only veil your real insecurity and shallow persona. Time to get a life.



GEMINI
(May 22 - June 21)

Get off the fence before you fall and are split in half. You cannot keep existing with your feet stuck in two different ponds. Pick one already.



LIBRA
(Sep 24 - Oct 23)

Nobody like a whiner, so just stop. Get over it and move on. On the other hand, suicide is very honorable in certain cultures.



PISCES
(Feb 20 - Mar 20)

You keep repeating the same stupid mistakes over and over again, but unlike Bill Murray in Ground Hog Day, you never improve or see your own shadow.



CANCER
(June 22 - July 22)

Time to change things up. Your partner is board as fuck with your sexual performance. Better consider some hormones before forcing your partner to look for relief elsewhere.



SCORPIO
(Oct 24 - Nov 22)

So you think you have everything figured out. Unfortunately the power of your perception won't change the fact that people really cannot stand you.



ARIES
(Mar 21 - Apr 20)

Be careful Aries, life is about to smack you in the face with a hearty dose of reality. Everyone sees through the front you have put out there to you friends and family. Try to be a little more genuine if you expect people to believe in you.



LEO
(July 23 - Aug 21)

Being a leader of a bunch of brainwashed losers, doesn't say much. Put Facebook and other social media on hold and think about the quality, not quantity, of your supposed friends.



SAGITTARIUS
(Nov 23 - Dec 22)

Just because you have a smart phone, doesn't make you smart. Try reading a book to enhance your dismally confused understanding of the world around you.

MMM Report Directory

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223 Boutique & Compassion Center
223 E. State St, Traverse City
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4Twenty Compassion
3760 N. US 131, S. Traverse City
(231) 463-3905

809 Provisioning Center
809 S. Garfield Ave., Traverse City
(231) 421-1670

AllWell Natural Health
845 S. Otsego, Gaylord
(989) 448-2657

Arborside
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(734) 213-1420

Best Cadillac Provisions
1552 Plett Rd., Cadillac
(231) 884-4376

Botanica
3884 Trade Center Dr., Ann Arbor
(734) 477-4325

Cafe Liv
603 E. William St., Ann Arbor
(734) 780-7018

Cannaisseur
3200 N. East St., Lansing
(517) 580-7602

Capitol City Provisioning
1426 E. Michigan Ave., E. Lansing
(517) 930-0057

Clio Caregiver Connection
105 N. Mill St. Clio
(810) 513-7350

Cloud 45
2631 S. Otsego Ave., Gaylord
(989) 448-2028

Detroit Strain Station
1918 Springdale St., Detroit
(313) 436-0325

Double D Oils Company
(231) 394-1798
(231) 631-3687

Emerald City Provision Center
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Got Meds
3405 S. Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 253-7468

Great Lakes Helping Hands
4160 E. M-72, Acme
(231) 421-5098

Green Rock Cafe
3408 S. Dort Hwy., Flint
(810) 742-0003

Greenways
4566 S. M-30, Beaverton
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Hardcore Harvest
119 W. State St, Montrose
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Helping Hands Emporium
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Hemphill Wellness Center
3365 Associate Drive, Burton
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Jackson County Compassion Club
1620 E. Michigan Ave, Jackson
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559C S. Cedar St., Kalkaska
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Michigan Organic Solutions
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The Green Room
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TNT
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Michigan Wellness Center
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MOS Doctor Certifications
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TNT MMMP Resource Center
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Cultivation Station
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(810) 564-8700

Green Grow, LLC
9046 N Dort Hwy, Mt Morris
(810) 687-9500

Green Thumb Hydro
8460 Algoma, Rockford
(616) 884-5500

Greenway Gardens
916 W. 13th St., Cadillac
(231) 775-7075

Helping Hands Emporium
4100 Cedar St., Lansing
(517) 993-5336

Horizen Hydroponics
1614 Leonard NW, Grand Rapids
(616) 791-1664

HydroKare/Galactic Gardens
3626 Miller Rd., Flint
(810) 522-3741

Hydroponics Hwy Inc
2703 Pine Grove Ave, Port Huron
(810) 982-4769

HydroPros
30504 23 Mile Rd., Chesterfield
(586) 741-8805

HydroPros
45410 Van Dyke Ave., Utica
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3679 Highland Rd, Waterford
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3549 S. Dort #104, Flint
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4260 Van Dyke Rd, #107, Almont
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